



Fletcher & Shakespeare

The Two Noble Kinsmen is a Jacobean tragicomedy co-written by William Shakespeare and John Fletcher, first published in 1634. Set in ancient Greece during a war between Athens and Thebes, the narrative follows the title characters, Palamon and Arcite, noble youths whose friendship is destroyed by their mutual love for the beautiful Emilia. The subplot deals with the love and eventual madness of the Gaoler's Daughter, who falls hopelessly in love with Palamon. The play is based on "The Knight's Tale" by Chaucer, but also has echoes of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, as two of the major characters are Theseus and Hippolyta, who also appear in the earlier play. (Summary by Elizabeth Klett)

**Cast**

Narrator/Gaoler's Daughter: [Elizabeth Klett](#) ~ First Queen/Nell: [Arielle Lipshaw](#)  
 Second Queen/Waiting-woman: [Beth Thomas](#) ~ Third Queen/Taborer: [Charlotte Duckett](#)  
 Theseus: [Bruce Pirie](#) ~ Hippolyta: [Libby Gohn](#)  
 Emilia: [Amanda Friday](#) ~ Pirithous: [Todd](#)  
 Palamon: [David Nicol](#) ~ Arcite: [mb](#)  
 Valerius/Bavian/First Friend: [Patti Cunningham](#) ~ Herald/Messenger: [tovarisch](#)  
 Gaoler: [Algy Pug](#) ~ Wooer: [Eden Rea-Hedrick](#)  
 First Countryman/Gentleman/Doctor: [bala](#)  
 Third Countryman/Gaoler's Brother/Servant/Third Knight: [Brett W. Downey](#)  
 Fourth Countryman/First Knight: [Anna Simon](#) ~ Gerrold/Second Knight: [Alan Mapstone](#)

Audio edited by Elizabeth Klett    Total running time: 2:46:36

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